

REMARKS

Claims 43-44, 54-57, 61-68, 88 and 90-91 are pending. Claims 58-59 and 89 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 43, 54-56, 61, 63-65, 67-68, and 88 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Support for the claim amendments can be found in at least FIGS. 3-7 and paragraphs [0017]-[0019] and [0021]-[0023] of the published application.

Claims 88 is Allowable

The Office has rejected claim 88, under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,031,698 ("Appelman"). Assignee respectfully traverses the rejection.

The cited portions of Appelman do not disclose or suggest the specific combination of claim 88. For example, the cited portions of Appelman do not disclose or suggest, at a computing device associated with a subscriber, detecting that a mobile telephone associated with the subscriber is in electrical contact with a charging device coupled to the computing device, where the computing device is external to the charging device, where the computing device is coupled to the charging device via a universal serial bus connection, and where the computing device is coupled to a network via a network access point, as in claim 88.

Appelman describes that when a cellular telephone is placed in a docking cradle, the telephone's physical presence within the docking cradle may be automatically detected and used as a basis for invoking forwarding of future incoming communications directed to the cellular telephone to another device, such as a nearby land line telephone. The docking cradle can communicate with a mobile service provider via an internet protocol (IP) network. *See* Appelman, col. 2, ll. 36-43, col. 6, ll. 56-60. The Office interprets Appelman's "docking cradle that can communicate with an IP network to incorporate the [claimed] computing device." *See* Office Action, p. 3. Assignee respectfully submits this interpretation would render the elements "the computing device is external to the charging device" and where "the computing device is coupled to the charging device via a universal serial bus connection" of claim 1 meaningless, and is therefore improper. The cited portions of Appelman fail to disclose or suggest, at a computing device associated with a subscriber, detecting that a mobile telephone associated with the subscriber is in electrical contact with a charging device coupled to the computing device, where the computing device is external to the charging device, where the computing device is coupled

to the charging device via a universal serial bus connection, and where the computing device is coupled to a network via a network access point, as in claim 88. Hence, claim 88 is allowable for at least this reason.

Claims 43-44 and 90-91 are Allowable

The Office has rejected claims 43-44 and 90-91, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,006,833 (“Contractor”) in view of Appelman and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0224795 (“Wilhoite”). Assignee respectfully traverses the rejections.

The cited portions of Contractor, Appelman, and Wilhoite do not disclose the specific combination of claim 43. For example, the cited portions of Contractor, Appelman, and Wilhoite fail to disclose placing a second call to a telephone number of a telephone device within a proximity zone associated with a computing device when proximity zone data in a call redirection message sent by the computing device indicates that a mobile telephone is in electrical contact with a charging device that is coupled to the computing device, where the computing device is external to the charging device and is coupled to a network via a network access point, as in claim 43.

The Office admits that Contractor “differs from the [claim] by utilizing ‘proximity sensors’ instead of a cradle that is coupled with a computing device” and relies on Appelman for this element of claim 43. *See* Office Action, p. 5. However, as explained above, the cited portions of Appelman fail to disclose or suggest that the computing device is external to the charging device and that the computing device is coupled to a network via a network access point. Therefore, the cited portions of Appelman fail to disclose or suggest placing a second call to a telephone number of a telephone device within a proximity zone associated with a computing device when proximity zone data in a call redirection message sent by the computing device indicates that a mobile telephone is in electrical contact with a charging device that is coupled to the computing device, where the computing device is external to the charging device and is coupled to a network via a network access point, as in claim 43.

Wilhoite describes a mobile phone that can be located based on communication with a radio frequency internet protocol (IP) antenna. The IP antenna detects the presence of the mobile phone by detecting periodic burst broadcasts from the mobile phone. *See* Wilhoite, FIG. 1,

paragraphs [0017], [0040]. The cited portions of Wilhoite do not disclose or suggest a computing device coupled to a charging device, where the computing device is external to the charging device and where the computing device is coupled to a network via a network access point, as in claim 43.

Therefore, the cited portions of Contractor, Appelman, and Wilhoite, individually or in combination, fail to disclose at least one element of claim 43. Hence, claim 43 is allowable for at least this reason. Claims 44, 90, and 91 are allowable, at least by virtue of depending from an allowable claim.

Claims 54-57 are Allowable

The Office has rejected claims 54-59, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Contractor in view of Appelman, Wilhoite, and U.S. Patent No. 6,389,117 (“Gross”). Claims 58-59 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Assignee respectfully traverses the remaining rejections.

Claims 54-57 depend from claim 43. As explained above, the cited portions of Contractor, Appelman, and Wilhoite fail to disclose at least one element of claim 43. The cited portions of Gross fail to disclose or suggest the elements of claim 43 not disclosed by the cited portions of Contractor, Appelman, and Wilhoite. For example, the cited portions of Gross fail to disclose or suggest placing a second call to a telephone number of a telephone device within a proximity zone associated with a computing device when proximity zone data in a call redirection message sent by the computing device indicates that a mobile telephone is in electrical contact with a charging device that is coupled to the computing device, where the computing device is external to the charging device and is coupled to a network via a network access point, as in claim 43. Gross describes using a single telephone number to access multiple services, such as paging, voicemail, fax, e-mail, and video mail. *See* Gross, col. 16, ll. 16-65. The cited portions of Gross do not disclose or suggest a computing device that is coupled to a charging device and that is coupled to a network via a network access point, as in claim 43, from which claims 54-57 depend. Hence, claims 54-57 are allowable, for at least this reason. Further, the dependent claims recite additional elements not disclosed by the cited portions of Contractor, Appelman, Wilhoite, and Gross.

For example, the cited portions of Contractor, Appelman, Wilhoite, and Gross do not disclose that, after a subscriber answers the second call (that is placed by a call redirection system after receiving a first call directed to a mobile telephone number of the subscriber), a call direction control system prompts the subscriber to select an action including one of answering the first call, routing the first call to voice mail, and routing the first call to an electronic mail address of the subscriber, as in claim 54. The Office relies on Gross for the element of “placing a second call and prompting the subscriber to select an action to be taken in response to the call after the subscriber answers the second call.” See Office Action, p. 7. Gross describes that a caller is presented with four options: speak to a party, leave a voicemail, send a fax, and send a page. Gross also describes that a callee can choose to accept or refuse a call, and that while on a call, a callee can be informed regarding other received voicemail, fax, pages, e-mail, and video mail via low-volume “whisper messages.” See Gross, col. 9, ll. 4-10, col. 16, ll. 34-57. The cited portions of Gross do not disclose or suggest that, after a subscriber answers the second call (that is placed by a call redirection system after receiving a first call directed to a mobile telephone number of the subscriber), a call direction control system prompts the subscriber (i.e. the callee) to select an action including one of answering the first call, routing the first call to voice mail, and routing the first call to an electronic mail address of the subscriber, as in claim 54. Hence, claim 54 is allowable for at least this additional reason.

Claim 61 is Allowable

The Office has rejected claim 61, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Contractor in view of Appelman. Assignee respectfully traverses the rejection.

As explained above, the cited portions of Contractor and Appelman do not disclose a computing device coupled to a charging device, where the computing device is external to the charging device and where the computing device is coupled to a network via a network access point. Therefore, the cited portions of Contractor and Appelman, individually or in combination, fail to disclose placing call to a telephone number of a telephone device within a proximity zone associated with a computing device of a subscriber when a call redirection message is received from the computing device and indicates that a mobile telephone is in electrical contact with a charging device that is coupled to the computing device, where the computing device is external

to the charging device and is coupled to a first network via a first network access point, as in claim 61. Hence, claim 61 is allowable for at least this reason.

Claims 62-63 and 65-67 are Allowable

The Office has rejected claims 62-63 and 65-67, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Contractor in view of Appelman and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006/0136546 (“Trioano”). Assignee respectfully traverses the rejections.

Claims 62-63 and 65-67 depend from claim 61. As explained above, the cited portions of Contractor and Appelman do not disclose at least one element of claim 61. The cited portions of Trioano do not disclose or suggest the elements of claim 61 not disclosed by the cited portions of Contractor and Appelman. For example, the cited portions of Trioano fail to disclose or suggest placing a call to a telephone number of a telephone device within a proximity zone associated with a computing device of a subscriber when a call redirection message is received from the computing device and indicates that a mobile telephone is in electrical contact with a charging device that is coupled to the computing device, where the computing device is external to the charging device and is coupled to a first network via a first network access point, as in claim 61. Trioano describes a mobile communication network that includes Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) messaging. *See* Trioano, [0065]. The cited portions of Trioano do not disclose or suggest that a call redirection message is received from the computing device and indicates that a mobile telephone is in electrical contact with a charging device that is coupled to the computing device, where the computing device is external to the charging device and is coupled to a first network via a first network access point, as in claim 61, from which claims 62-63 and 65-67 depend. Hence, claims 62-63 and 65-67 are allowable for at least this reason.

Claims 64 and 68 are Allowable

The Office has rejected claims 64 and 68, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Contractor in view of Appelman and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0165988 (“Khan”). Assignee respectfully traverses the rejections.

Claims 64 and 68 depend from claim 61. As explained above, the cited portions of Contractor and Appelman do not disclose at least one element of claim 61. The cited portions of Khan do not disclose or suggest the elements of claim 61 not disclosed by the cited portions of

Contractor and Appelman. For example, the cited portions of Khan fail to disclose or suggest placing a call to a telephone number of a telephone device within a proximity zone associated with a computing device of a subscriber when a call redirection message is received from the computing device and indicates that a mobile telephone is in electrical contact with a charging device that is coupled to the computing device, where the computing device is external to the charging device and coupled to a first network via a first network access point, as in claim 61. Khan describes a user agent that fetches and renders web pages, where the user agent satisfies protocol requirements. *See* Khan, [0182]-[0183]. The cited portions of Khan do not disclose or suggest that a call redirection message is received from the computing device and indicates that a mobile telephone is in electrical contact with a charging device that is coupled to the computing device, where the computing device is external to the charging device and coupled to a first network via a first network access point, as in claim 61, from which claims 64 and 68 depend. Hence, claims 64 and 68 are allowable for at least this reason.

Claim 89

The Office has rejected claim 89, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Appelman in view of Aoki. Claim 89 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, rendering the rejection moot.

CONCLUSION

Assignee has pointed out specific features of the claims not disclosed, suggested, or rendered obvious by the cited portions of the references applied in the Office Action. Accordingly, Assignee respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of each of the objections and rejections, as well as an indication of the allowability of each of the pending claims.


Any changes to the claims in this response that have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the cited references should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below if such a call would in any way facilitate allowance of this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-2469.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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